

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAN SA 04158 041714Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 MCT-01 /075 W
-----103756 041718Z /43

P R 041648Z SEP 77 ZFF RULPALJ
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5395
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 4158

EO 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINS, PINT, ES
SUBJ: INCIDENT AT TEJUTLA

REF: SAN SALVADOR 4125

1. DURING MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ROMERO THIS MORNING (3 SEPT-
EMBER) SUBJECT OF KILLINGS IN TEJUTLA CAME UP IN CONTEXT
GENERAL DISCUSSION HUMAN RIGHTS, RULE OF LAW, AND TERRORISM,
CRIMINALITY AND DELINQUENCY. ROMERO INSISTED THAT INCIDENT IN
TEJUTLA WAS ONE OF CONFRONTATION BETWEEN CATTLE RUSTLERS AND
RURAL POLICE (POLICIA DE HACIENDA--WHICH, INCIDENTALLY, IS
DISTINCT SERVICE FROM CUSTOMS POLICE OR POLICIA DE ADUANA).
HE COULD NOT ACCEPT STORY CHURCH HAD CIRCULATED, SAYING FIRST
THAT WORD QTE CATECHISTS UNQTE USED LOSELY FOR ANYONE
WHO ATTENDS MASS; AND SECOND THAT CHURCH WAS LOSING PARISH-
IONERS RAPIDLY AND ITS ACTIONS WERE FRANTIC EFFORTS
RECOUP FORMER STRENGTH. PRESIDENT SAID THAT WAS WHY EVANGE-
LICAL RELIGIONS WERE MAKING SUCH IMPRESSIVE INROADS IN THEIR
MISSIONARY AND PROSELYTIZING EFFORTS IN EL SALVADOR.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAN SA 04158 041714Z

2. PRESIDENT DECRIED FACT THAT IN EL SALVADOR LAWS AND
JUDICIAL PROCEDURES, AS WELL AS TRADITION, DID NOT ALWAYS
ALLOW FOR SITUATION SUCH AS TEJUTLA TO BE TAKEN CARE OF BY
DUE PROCESS. HE MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY ARCHAIC PROVISION OF
LAW THAT CONVICTION FOR MURDER REQUIRED WITNESSES. HE EMPHASIZED
PRESENT PROGRAM OF GOVERNMENT TO REVISE AND MODERNIZE PENAL

CODE, POLICE PRACTICES, AND PRISION CONDITIONS.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT'S ARGUMENTS SOUNDED SINCERE AND REASONABLE, SO DO THOSE OF CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS DIFFICULT IN EL SALVADOR TO FIND OUT AND RECOGNIZE WHAT IS TRUE AND WHAT IS FALSE, EXPECIALLY WITH EMBASSY'S PRESENT CAPABILITIES FOR INFORMATION COLLECTION.
LUBENSKY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MURDER, PENAL SYSTEM, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, CHURCH STATE RELATIONS, RURAL AREAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANS04158
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770321-0493
Format: TEL
From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770998/aaaadeji.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cd34fb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SAN SALVADOR 4125
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1387067
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INCIDENT AT TEJUTLA
TAGS: PINS, PINT, SHUM, PORS, ES
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cd34fb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009